

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The remote as in claim 1A~~ remote control unit for controlling a number of devices, the remote control unit comprising:

a receiver for acquiring identification data from a particular device at which the remote control unit is pointed;

a processor for processing the acquired identification data to determine command protocols associated with the particular device; and

a formatter for formatting control commands for the particular device according to the command protocols associated with the particular device,

wherein the ~~remote receiver~~ acquires identification data from the particular device at which ~~it the remote control unit~~ is pointed by capturing at least one image in the direction in which the remote control unit is pointed, the at least one captured image including the particular device.

8. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the ~~remote receiver~~ comprises a camera that

~~captures~~for capturing images in the direction in which the remote control unit is pointed.

9. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the ~~remote-processor~~ processes the captured image to identify the particular device at which the remote control unit is pointed.

10. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the ~~remote-processor~~ identifies the particular device in the captured image using image recognition processing.

11. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the remote control unit comprises a database ~~that includes~~containing representations of images of the number of devices and their associated command protocols, the ~~remote-processor~~ 5 determining a representation of an image in the database that matches the particular device in the captured image, and the ~~remote~~ formatter using the command protocols associated with the representation of the image in the database to format input control commands.

12. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as in Claim ~~1~~7, wherein the ~~remote-receiver~~ acquires identification data from the

particular device at which ~~it~~ the remote control unit is pointed
after the user inputs an acquisition command in the remote,
5 wherein, after ~~processing~~ the processor processes the
identification data acquired to determine command protocols
associated with the particular device, the ~~remote-formatter~~ formatter formats
control commands for the particular device input to the remote by
the user according to the command protocols associated with the
10 particular device until the user inputs another acquisition
command.

13. (Currently Amended) The remote control unit as claimed in
Claim 17, wherein the remote control unit further comprises a
display for displaying information, and the remote-receiver
acquires identification data from two or more particular devices at
5 which ~~it~~ the remote control unit is pointed, the ~~remote-processor~~
processing the identification data and displaying on the display
the identity of the two or more particular devices to the user, the
remote control unit further comprising an input for receiving user
providing a user selection input ~~to the remote~~ selecting one of the
10 two or more particular devices identified, the ~~remote-processor~~
determining command protocols associated with the selected device,
and the formatter formatting control commands for the selected
particular device input to the remote by the user according to the
command protocols associated with the selected particular device.

14-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as in Claim 14A~~ method for controlling one particular device selected from among a number of devices based upon a selection direction, the method comprising the steps of:

5 acquiring identification data from the particular device;
determining command protocols associated with the
particular device using the identification data; and
formatting control commands for the particular device
according to the determined command protocols for the particular
10 device,

wherein the step of acquiring identification data from the particular device comprises capturing one or more images of the particular device.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 17,
wherein the step of determining command protocols associated with the particular device using the identification data comprises using the image to find a matching image representation in a compilation
5 of image representations for the number of devices and their associated command protocols and selecting the command protocols

associated in the compilation with the image representation that matches the image of the particular device.